Maintenance of Rocket launchers in the Army

2355. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Army has been caught in a bind over the issue of the maintenance of rocket launchers bought from Carl Gustov Co. of Sweden in 1980, which company was later merged with M/s. BOFORS in 1990s;

(b) if so, the nature and extent of the difficulties faced in regard to after sales-services, spares and maintenance of the Carl-Gustov Rocket launchers; and

(c) the steps taken to secure the required services and spares etc?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N. V. N. SOMU): (a) No, Sir. These rocket launchers are presently being produced and maintained indigenously.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Import of ammunition/spares for BOFORS guns

2356. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to a ban on import of ammunition/spares and technology in respect of BOFORS guns imported in 1980's the Army finds itself in a serious bind;

(b) if so, the details of the requirements to fully utilise the Howitzer procured; and

(c) the steps taken to resolve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N. V. N. SOMU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government have taken appropriate steps to ensure the continued supply of spares and ammunition for the weapons system. A special Task Group has been set up to indigenously produce the spares.

Complaints against Army personnel

2357. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of a total of 820 complaints filed against Army personnel, deployed on counter insurgency operations in Kashmir and North East, during the period from January, 1990 to June, 1997, as many as 744 allegations were found to be baseless; and

(b) if so, the number and nature of different types of allegations substantiated, and the action taken against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N. V. N. SOMU): (a) and (b) It is a fact that out of a total of 820 complaints filed against army personnel deployed in counter insurgency operations in Jammu & Kashmir during January 1990 to March